

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (canceled).

2. (currently amended): A method of displaying vital signs on a plurality of bedside monitors, each of which comprises a display area, the method comprising:
storing predetermined priority information ~~which ranks for prioritizing~~ a plurality of alarm conditions ~~with respect to each other, each of which is an alarm~~ pertinent to the vital signs, ~~so that an alarm condition considered to be most prioritized to other alarm conditions can be determined;~~

disposing each of the plurality of bedside monitors at a bedside of an associated one of a plurality of patients, respectively;

simultaneously displaying, in the display area of each of the plurality of bedside monitors, parameter values of at least one set of vital signs measured for at least one other of the plurality of patients, together with a set of vital signs of the associated one of the patients; and

displaying, in the display area of each of the plurality of bedside monitors, alarm information corresponding to a ~~highest-ranked~~ most prioritized one of the alarm conditions for each of the plurality of patients, based on the prioritization of the plurality of alarm conditions, when a plurality of the vital signs of any one of the plurality of patients are in the alarm conditions.

3. - 8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended): A bedside monitor, adapted to be disposed at a bedside of an associated one of a plurality of patients and connected to at least one other bedside monitor by way of a network, comprising:

a memory for storing predetermined priority information for prioritizing in which a plurality of alarm conditions with respect to each other, each of which is ~~an alarm~~ pertinent to a ~~set of the vital signs is to be issued~~ are ranked, so that an alarm condition considered to be most prioritized to other alarm conditions can be determined; and

a display area, operable to:

display a set of vital signs of the associated one of the patients simultaneously with parameter values of at least one set of vital signs measured by the at least one other bedside monitor; and

display alarm information corresponding to a ~~highest-ranked~~ most prioritized one of the alarm conditions for each of the patients, based on the prioritization of the plurality of alarm conditions, when a plurality of the vital signs of any one of the patients are in the alarm conditions.

10. (currently amended): A monitoring system for monitoring and displaying vital signs, comprising:

a network;

a plurality of bedside monitors, communicatively connected with each other by way of the network, each of which is adapted to be disposed at a bedside of an associated one of a plurality of patients;

a storage unit ~~for storing predetermined priority information for prioritizing in which a~~ plurality of alarm conditions with respect to each other, each of which is an alarm pertinent to a set of the vital signs, so that an alarm condition considered to be most prioritized to other alarm conditions can be determined ~~is to be issued are ranked;~~

wherein each of the bedside monitors includes a display area for displaying a set of vital signs of the associated one of the patients simultaneously with parameter values of at least one set of vital signs measured by at least one other bedside monitor; and

wherein each of the bedside monitors displays alarm information corresponding to a most prioritized ~~highest-ranked~~ one of the alarm conditions for each of the patients, based on the prioritization of the plurality of alarm conditions, when a plurality of vital signs of any one of the patients are in the alarm conditions.

11. (new): The method of displaying vital signs on a plurality of bedside monitors, according to claim 2, wherein the alarm information for the most prioritized one of the alarm conditions for each of the plurality of patients is displayed in a different manner than the parameter values of the at least one set of vital signs for each of the plurality of patients.